

## Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00  
USIE-00 INRE-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-01 INR-07 IO-13  
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FM USDEL MBFR VIENNA

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AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

S E C R E T MBFR VIENNA 336

MBFR NEGOTIATIONS

FROM US REP MBFR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS: DATA DISAGGREGATION: JUNE 23 SPC

MEETING

REF: USNATO 5895 DTG 231741Z JUN 77

1. THIS MESSAGE COMMENTS ON PORTIONS OF THE REVISED DRAFT GUIDANCE AS IT EMERGED FROM JUNE 23 SPC MEETING.

2. REGARDING THE FRG PROPOSAL TO REQUIRE ALLIED NEGOTIATORS TO TELL THE EAST THAT THEY ARE PREPARED TO EXCHANGE DIVISIONAL DATA (PARA 2 AND 3 REFTEL, WE BELIEVE US SHOULD CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE LANGUAGE IN THE ORIGINAL DRAFT GUIDANCE WITH THE AMENDMENT PRO-  
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POSED BY UK (E.G., REPLACING "SHOULD" WITH "MAY.")

3. WE AGREE WITH UK AND DUTCH REPS THAT EVEN MENTIONING DIVISIONAL DATA IN THE CONTEXT OF OUR INITIAL PROPOSAL COULD MAKE THE EAST MORE APPREHENSIVE ABOUT THE ENTIRE WESTERN PROPOSAL. AS WE ARE ALL AWARE, IT WILL BE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT AT BEST TO OBTAIN THE EAST'S AGREEMENT TO A UNIT DISAGGREGATION PROPOSAL, BOTH BECAUSE OF THE

POTENTIAL SENSITIVITY, IN EASTERN EYES, OF THE DATA THEY WOULD BE REQUIRED TO TABLE AND BECAUSE OF THE PRECEDING NEGOTIATING CIRCUMSTANCES (E.G., THE WEST'S UNWILLINGNESS TO FURNISH NATIONAL TOTALS). TO SUGGEST TO THE EAST AT THE OUTSET THAT THE WEST IS CONTEMPLATING AN EXCHANGE OF DIVISIONAL DATA AND THAT IF THEY AGREED TO THIS WESTERN PROPOSAL, THEY WOULD AT LEAST BY IMPLICATION BE COMMITTING THEMSELVES TO FURNISH DATA ON THE NUMERICAL STRENGTH OF EZPNAW PACT DIVISION, WOULD BE LIKELY TO INCREASE EASTERN RESISTANCE TO THE WHOLE PROPOSAL. IN OUR VIEW, THE ISSUE OF DIVISION BREAKDOWN SHOULD BE RAISED WITH THE EAST ONLY AFTER THE PRECEDING DATA DISCUSSION HAS MADE THE NECESSITY FOR SUCH DATA CLEAR. FOR THESE REASONS, WE BELIEVE THE AHG MUST HAVE TACTICAL FLEXIBILITY AS TO WHEN TO RAISE THIS SUBJECT.

4. REGARDING FRG PROPOSAL TO REQUIRE COMPLETION OF EXCHANGE OF GROUND FORCE DATA BEFORE AIR FORCE DATA IS EXCHANGED (PARA 5 REFTEL), WE BELIEVE US SHOULD CONTINUE TO OPPOSE THIS POSITION. ALTHOUGH THIS LANGUAGE IS NOT IDENTICAL TO THAT IN THE ORIGINAL FRG PROPOSAL (WHICH WOULD HAVE REQUIRED COMPLETION OF DISCUSSION OF GROUND FORCE DATA BEFORE EXCHANGE OF AIR FORCE DATA), THE IMPLICATION IS THAT THE EAST WOULD HAVE HAD TO TABLE DATA ON INDIVIDUAL EASTERN DIVISIONS AS ENVISAGED IN THE FRG CONCEPT OR OTHERWISE QUOTE COMPLETE UNQUOTE THE EXCHANGE OF DATA MEETING SOME UNSPECIFIED WESTERN CONDITION WHICH WENT BEYOND TABLING OF THE TOTALS REQUESTED FOR THE GROUND FORCES, BEFORE THE WEST WOULD TABLE DATA ON AIR FORCE MANPOWER. THUS, THE DISADVANTAGES OF THE PRESENT FRG WORDING REMAIN  
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TO ALL INTENTS AND PURPOSES THE SAME AS THOSE OUTLINE IN MBFR 298 PARAS 2 AND 3.

7. COMBINED WITH THE OTHER ASPECTS OF FRG PROPOSAL, TO SUGGEST SUCH A PROCEDURE WOULD CONSIDERABLY INCREASE THE PROBABILITY OF EASTERN REJECTION OF THE WHOLE UNIT DISAGGREGATION APPROACH. THE EAST WOULD IN EFFECT BE REQUIRED TO PUT DOWN NOT ONLY DATA ON MAJOR UNITS BUT ALSO DIVISIONAL DATA BEFORE THE WEST MADE ANY AIR FORCE DATA AVAILABLE. THIS APPROACH IN ITSELF WOULD GIVE THE EAST ADDITIONAL GROUNDS FOR REFUSING THE WESTERN PROPOSAL. MOREOVER, IT WOULD SLANT THE WHOLE DATA EXCHANGE IN THE DIRECTION OF THE WESTERN FOCUS ON GROUND FORCES TO AN EXTENT THE EAST IS CERTAIN TO FIND UNACCEPTABLE AND TO OBJECT TO. SUCH A POSITION WOULD ALSO CREATE A FURTHER UNDESIRABLE ASSOCIATION BETWEEN THE DATA DISCUSSION AND THE GENERAL NEGOTIATING POSITION OF EACH SIDE.

8. FYI. DELEGATION'S SUGGESTED TEXT OF DRAFT GUIDANCE MBFR 330, PARA 3 MIGHT PROVIDE AN INTERMEDIATE SOLUTION WHICH COULD HELP MEET FRG CONCERN, IF THIS PROVES NECESSARY IN DUE COURSE. IT WOULD ENABLE WESTERN NEGOTIATORS TO TELL THE EAST AS PART OF THEIR INITIAL PROPOSAL THAT AIR FORCE DATA COULD BE PROVIDED ONCE EACH SIDE HAD HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS THE GROUND FORCE DATA PUT

FORWARD BY THE OTHER SIDE, BUT IT WOULD ALSO ALLOW ALLIED NEGOTIATORS TO AGREE TO A SIMULTANEOUS EXCHANGE OF AIR AND GROUND FORCE DATA IF REFUSAL TO DO THIS WAS AN OBSTACLE TO EASTERN AGREEMENT TO THE WESTERN PROPOSAL. END FYI.

9. REGARDING THE PROPOSED FRG AMENDMENT ON NATIONAL REDUCTION COMMITMENTS (PARA 7 REFTEL), WE FULLY SUPPORT POSITION TAKEN BY MISSION AND BELIEVE IT SHOULD BE MAINTAINED. RESOR

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